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0-19110

Country - Finland

Subject - Reported Confusion in the Finnish CP Caused by Uncertainties About Soviet Leaders/Failure of Stockholm World Peace Council Meeting

Place Acquired - [REDACTED] 25X1A6a

Date Acquired - 2 [REDACTED]

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Date of Information - May 53

Source Description - [REDACTED]

1.

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"Since Stalin's death the Kremlin has appeared in a state of weakness. Nobody among the present leaders of the Finnish Communist Party dares at present to make any decisions. In particular they hesitate to pay homage to any of the present rulers in Moscow. As it is not known who will emerge the final leader out of the struggle that is probably going on behind the scenes, the Finnish Communists do not want to compromise themselves. The state of the leaders of the Finnish Communist Party since Stalin's death may be described as one of 'panic'. They are in their greatest dilemma since the end of World War II -- they really do not know what attitude to take toward the developments in Soviet domestic politics. They do not know where to turn for instructions that might not prove fatal tomorrow. Even the leaders of the Peace Movement in Finland are facing the same problems. 'Isn't it strange that Stalin, the supreme leader of the peace movement, had to die before anything concrete could be done on the route to the achievement of peace?'

2.

"An expert on Finnish Communism, <sup>Arvo</sup> ~~fnu~~ Tuominen, describes the situation within the Finnish Communist Party as follows:

'The chairman of the Finnish Communists may be compared to a navigator who has lost his compass. The leaders do not know where to turn, how to navigate the Party's ship on the stormy sea without endangering themselves.'

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[REDACTED] the Finnish Communists have issued, as did the German Communists, confidential instructions about what should NOT be done. No individual propaganda is allowed to be carried on for any of the present rulers in the Kremlin. None of these Soviet leaders may be mentioned or pictured individually. Such confusion is characteristic of the entire leadership of world Communism at present. It affected the meeting of the Office of the World Peace Council in Stockholm at the beginning of May, 1952. Contrary to the procedure at former meetings, the Council this time issued no instructions or detailed communiqués or even information to the Communist Parties in various foreign countries. The Communist press in the USSR, as well as in the satellite countries and the Western world, mentioned the meeting only briefly.

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